

ERIC ARNOLD BLOUNT §
VS. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:14cv396
STATE OF TEXAS §

Plaintiff Eric Arnold Blount filed this lawsuit against the State of Texas. Plaintiff complains he was wrongfully convicted of a criminal offense and seeks monetary damages.¹

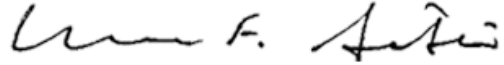
The Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution provides that "[t]he judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State...." The Eleventh Amendment has been construed to prohibit a citizen of a state from bringing an action in federal court against his own state. *Pennhurst State School & Hospital v. Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89, 98-99 (1984); *Williams v. Dallas Area Rapid Transit*, 242 F.3d 315, 319 (5th Cir. 2001).

Plaintiff is seeking money damages from the State of Texas. The Eleventh Amendment bars him from pursuing such a claim in

¹ This case was directly assigned to the undersigned magistrate judge pursuant to this district's General Order 14-10. Plaintiff has provided voluntary written consent to have the assigned magistrate judge conduct all further proceedings in this case, including entry of final judgment, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636. The defendant in this action has not been served with process and, as a result, has not appeared. As a result, its consent is not needed for the undersigned to make a final determination in this matter. See *Neals v. Norwood*, 59 F.3d 530, 532 (5th Cir. 1995).

federal court. As a result, this lawsuit will be dismissed. An appropriate final judgment shall be entered.

SIGNED this 6 day of May, 2015.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Keith F. Giblin", written in black ink.

KEITH F. GIBLIN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE